THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, only the appropriate Governments are required to make reservation of jobs in Government establishments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Ministry has brought out publications in English and Hindi languages, containing details of all the schemes/services being offered to the disabled persons by States/Union Territory Administrations and the Central Government. State Governments/U.T. Administrations have also been requested to bring out publications in relevant local languages.

Objective of NSK Commission

1926. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objective for which the National Safai Karamchari Commission has been set up;

(b) whether Government have ever assessed its performance in the light of its objective, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when the present term of the Commission is due to expire; and

(d) whether Government have formed any view on extension or otherwise of its term, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The basic objective for which the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis was set up is to promote and safeguard the interests and rights of Safai Karamcharis. The National Commission has, inter-alia, been empowered to investigate specific grievances and take suo moto notice on matters relating to non implementation of (a) programmes and schemes in respect of any group of Safai Karamcharis (b) decisions, guidelines or instructions

aimed at mitigating the hardship of Safai Karamcharis (c) measures for social and economic upliftment of Safai Karamcharis, and (d) the provisions of any law in its application to Safai Karamcharis and take up such matters with the concerned authorities. The Act also empowers the National Commission to call for any information with respect to any matters specified above from the concerned authorities.

(b) Under the provisions of National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993, the Commission is required to submit its Annual Report to the Central Govt. They have submitted two reports so far and they contain the observations/recommendations of the Commission. These reports are made after detailed analysis of the problems confronting the Safai Karamcharis. The Govt. is also able to assess the performance of the Commission from the Reports it submits.

(c) and (d) The present Commission was constituted on 8th April 1997 for a period of three years and its present tenure will end on 7th April 2000. The Government is yet to take a decision regarding extension of the term of the Commission.

Grant of aid to Private Institutions in Chamoli

1927. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases have been forwarded by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the grant of central aid to the private institutions imparting training to the poor villagers in Chamoli, Uttar Pradesh during this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that while forwarding these cases by the State Government all requisite formalities had already been completed by the applicants and the State Government officials but the cases have been delayed furter due to certain objections raised by the Central Government; and

(d) whether Government would take necessary measures to finalise these cases immediately?